Utilization of rainwater

†91. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that India received about 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) rainfall every year; out of which only 690 Billion Cubic Metre water is utilized and the rest of the water goes down in the drain due to various reasons;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme of Government to harvest and utilize this unutilized rainwater, State-wise; and

(c) the number of schemes including Bharat Nirman Yojana being implemented at present to stop the drainage of unutilized rainwater, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The average annual precipitation is estimated as 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. After accounting for the natural process of evaporation etc., the average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 BCM. It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM which comprises of 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM of replenishable ground water resources. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea.

(b) and (c) With a view to optimally utilize the available resources, several measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rainwater harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practice etc. Storage capacity of about 225 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 64 BCM. Further, the State Government have identified various other schemes for investigation and planning and the estimated storage for such schemes is about 108 BCM. State Government conceive, plan and implement major, medium and minor schemes (both surface and ground water) for utilization of water resources. Government of India is providing Central assistance to the State Government through various schemes/ programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme; National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture etc. The Ministry of Water Resources encourages conservation of water including measures such as traditional water conservation practice, rainwater harvesting and recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices. Government of India also launched a Pilot Scheme on "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in January, 2005 with an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crore with a view to restore and augment storage capacity of water bodies and also to recover their lost irrigation potential. Schemes for repair renovation and restoration of water bodies have also been taken up with World Bank assistance in the State of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Proposal from West Bengal and Orissa have also been forwarded by the Department of Economic Affairs to the World Bank.

Irrigation Component of Bharat Nirman envisages creation of irrigation potential of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

10 million hectare through major and medium irrigation projects as well as minor irrigation schemes. At present 166 major, 222 medium and 89 ERM projects are reported to be on-going in various States. Support to the State Government is provided by Government of India through AIBP and other schemes.

Project for linking rivers

†92. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is in touch with the State Government over the projects of linking of rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the projects in respect of which discussions are being held with the State Governments;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of meetings have been held between Gujarat and Maharashtra on the amibitious project of inter-linking of rivers Par-Tapi and Narmada; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has prepared Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 16 links out of 30 identified links under the National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins/areas. The reports prepared by NWDA have been circulated to the concerned State Governments. Also, the State Government officers are invariably invited to all the important meetings e.g. Annual General Meetings of NWDA Society, Governing Body meeting, Technical Advisory Committee meetings etc. A group headed by Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) has been constituted in June, 2002 to discuss with the States the issues for arriving at a consensus regarding sharing of surplus water and preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). Five peninsular links namely (i) Ken-Betwa (ii) Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (iii) Par-Tapi-Narmada (iv) Damanganga-Pinjal and (v) Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) have been identified as priority links for consensus building between the concerned States. This group has already held nine meetings for consensus building on these priority links. The DPR for one priority link *viz.* Ken- Betwa has been taken up by NWDA after signing of tripartite agreement between the Government of India and the concerned States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25.08.2005.

(c) and (d) The Consensus group headed by Chairman, CWC held two meetings on 12.05.2006 and 1.02.2007 for arriving at consensus on Par-Tapi-Narmada and Damanganga-Pinjal links in which the representatives of the Government of Gujarat and the Government of Maharashtra also participated. As agreed in the above meeting held on 1.02.2007, Ministry of Water Resources has sent the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for both the links in April, 2007 to the Government of Maharashtra and the Government of Gujarat for their concurrence.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.